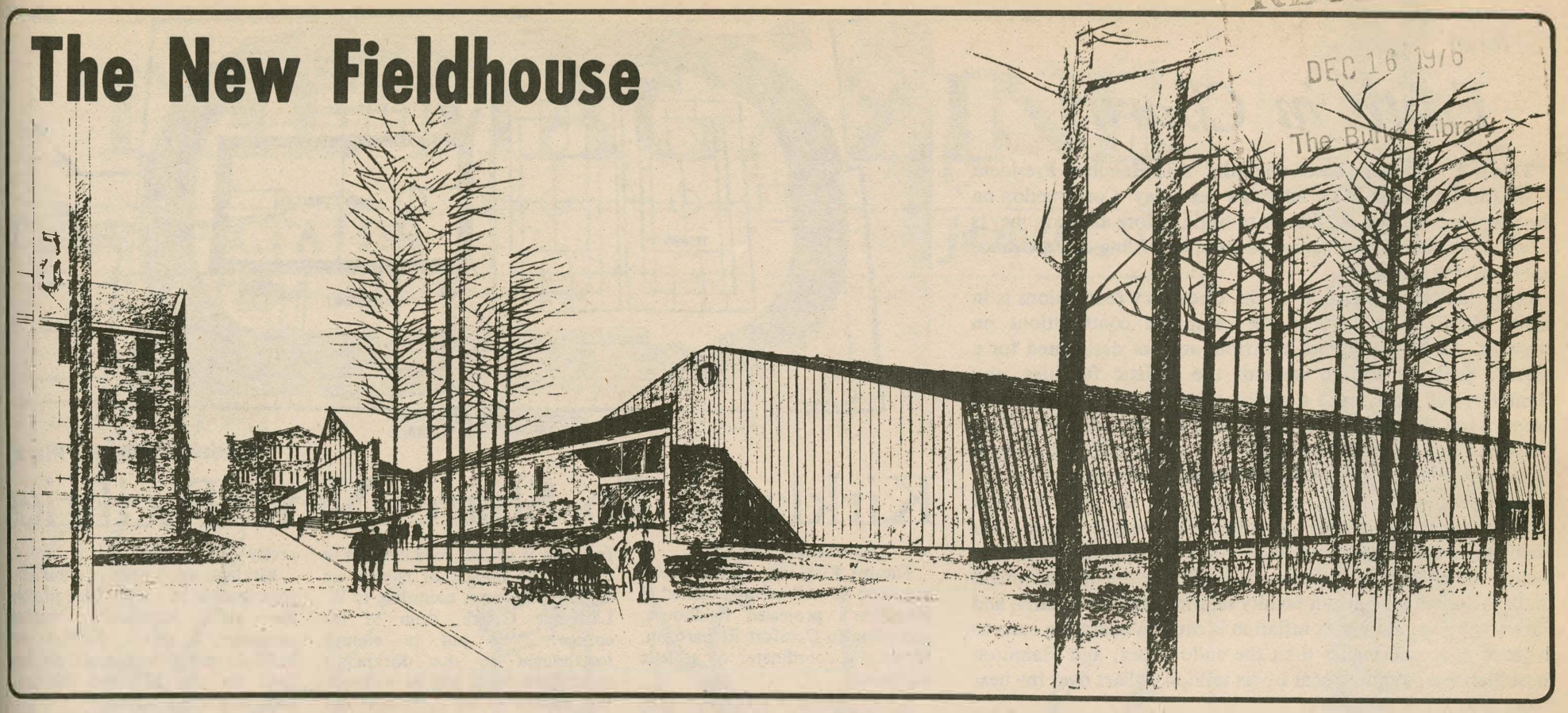
RECEIVED
DEC 16 1976
The Burke Library



extra **THE SPECTATOR** extra

VOLUME VII, NUMBER TWELVE HAMILTON AND KIRKLAND COLLEGES, CLINTON, NEW YORK DECEMBER 11, 1976

Construction To Begin On Fieldhouse Complex

By SUSAN MALKIN

Hamilton College's Board of Trustees voted last weekend to authorize $5 million dollars to begin major additions and renovations to Hamilton's athletic facilities, including the construction of a new fieldhouse, President J. Martin Carovano announced today.

The project is planned for completion by September 1, 1978.

"Priorities for Hamilton"

The renovation and expansion of the athletic facilities are part of Hamilton's four-year, $16 million capital campaign, known as "Priorities for Hamilton." The campaign's three major goals are the renovation and enlargement of the Chemistry Building, which is underway and expected to be completed by September 1977; addition to endowment principle; and renovation and additions to the college's athletic facilities.

The first stage of the athletic project to be completed by September 1977 will be the renovation of the Alumni Gymnasium, which will include the construction of a new central lobby located between the gymnasium and the Sage Rink. The next stage, which will include the construction of three new playing fields, three indoor squash courts and two handball courts, and the new fieldhouse to be built adjacent to the Sage Rink, is expected to be completed by the fall of 1978.

The only part of the original $6.5 million plan for Hamilton's athletic facilities, which has not been authorized by the Trustees is the construction of a new swimming pool between the gym and the hockey rink. However, Carovano said that the swimming pool is still part of plans for the future.

Campaign Success

"From the campaign's inception, we have been determined to begin each construction project only as it became financially feasible," said Carovano. "We also wanted to proceed on construction as quickly as possible. In the Board's judgement, the success of the campaign to date puts us in a position to begin work on the athletic facilities."

Hamilton has received $7.5 million dollars in contributions since the announcement of its capital campaign in March 1976, of which $2.5 million is "applicable to the field house," said Carovano.

Faith

"We are beginning without total funds in hand. We are taking action based on faith—faith that we will meet our $16 million goal," said Carovano.

"The Board wants to ensure that Hamilton students have the best athletic facilities as quickly as possible," said Chairman of the Hamilton Board of Trustees, Coleman Burke. He noted that Hamilton's new athletic center will place the college's facilities near the top of those schools with which it competes.

Hamilton is one of eleven members of the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) which includes such other schools as Williams, Colby, and Bowdoin. Hamilton's indoor facilities rank near the bottom compared to these schools, said Carovano, but the new facilities will make Hamilton one of the NESCAC leaders in indoor square feet of recreational space per student.

Recruitment and Competition

"This new facility is not meant simply to provide more athletic space, but to assist the institution in the recruitment of students, especially in the next decade," said Dean of the College W. Lawrence Gulick.

There will be a national decline in the number of college-age students in the next decade, according to Gulick, and "we need facilities which will allow us to compete."

"It's hard to say why a student chooses one institution over another, but the athletic facilities play a large role, probably larger than we think," said Gulick.

"We want to ensure that Hamilton has what it needs to be one of the best colleges, now as well as in the 1980's. These facilities will help ensure it," said Carovano.

"We don't want to make the mistake of sitting on our laurels, as some other small colleges have done," said Gulick.

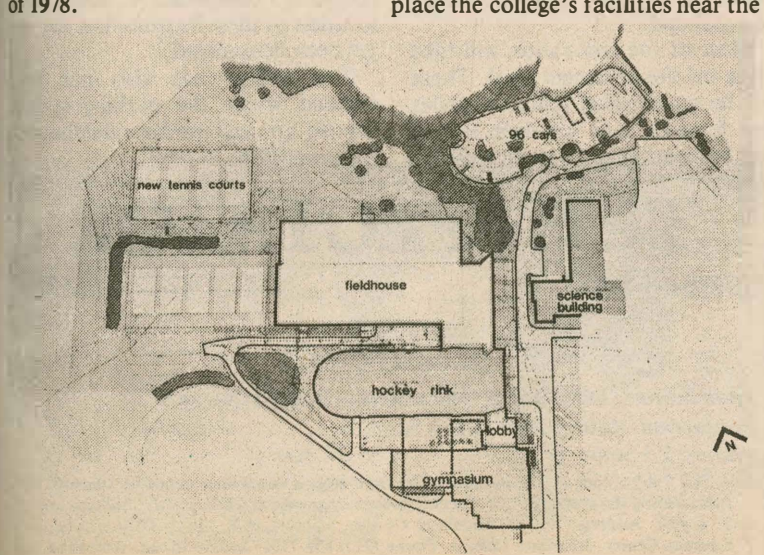
Large Share of the Pie?

"Six and one half million may look like a large share of a $16 million pie, especially for an institution that thinks of itself in terms of academics," said Gulick.

Of the $16 million capital campaign goals, about $2 million has been designated for the renovation of the Chemistry Building; $6 million for endowment, and a total of $6.5 million for athletic facilities. Other monies received from capital campaign contributions will go towards the Burke and James Libraries, and gifts for current purposes.

However, Gulick noted that this

continued on page two



Architect's Plans for Facilities

Gene Long Reviews Athletic Facility Model

Athletic Facilities: Old and New Together

By BOB McCORMICK

Hamilton's new fieldhouse will comprise part of an "integrated system of athletic facilities," according to Hamilton President J. Martin Carovano.

The fieldhouse, designed by Vincent Kling and Partners, a Philadelphia architectural firm, and targeted for completion by September, 1978, will stand to the north of renovated Alumni Gymnasium and Sage Rink, and will be connected to the latter by a structure housing three squash courts and two handball courts.

Central Lobby

The gym and the rink will be linked by a central lobby area, completing the athletic complex. "This lobby will enable students and spectators to socialize informally as well as to gain easy access to a particular area of the complex," said Carovano.

There will be two entrances to the athletic center, one for spectators and the other for athletes.

The fieldhouse as conceived will be a massive building, though part of the structure will be sunk into the ground so that it will appear no higher than Sage Rink. The Clinton woods will be visible to spectators on one side.

A regulation size basketball court with 10-foot clearance around it, pull-out bleachers, and seating space for 1500 will be included inside the fieldhouse. With recessed seating, the fieldhouse contains three basketball courts. The configuration of Hamilton's fieldhouse will differ from the conventional mode in that the basketball court will be walled out and located at one end of the building, retaining some of the intimacy found in Alumni Gym.

Multiplicity of Uses

The fieldhouse is designed for a multiplicity of uses. "When the basketball stands are recessed, room for indoor tennis, badminton, and volleyball becomes

continued on page two

Editorial

Faith in Charity

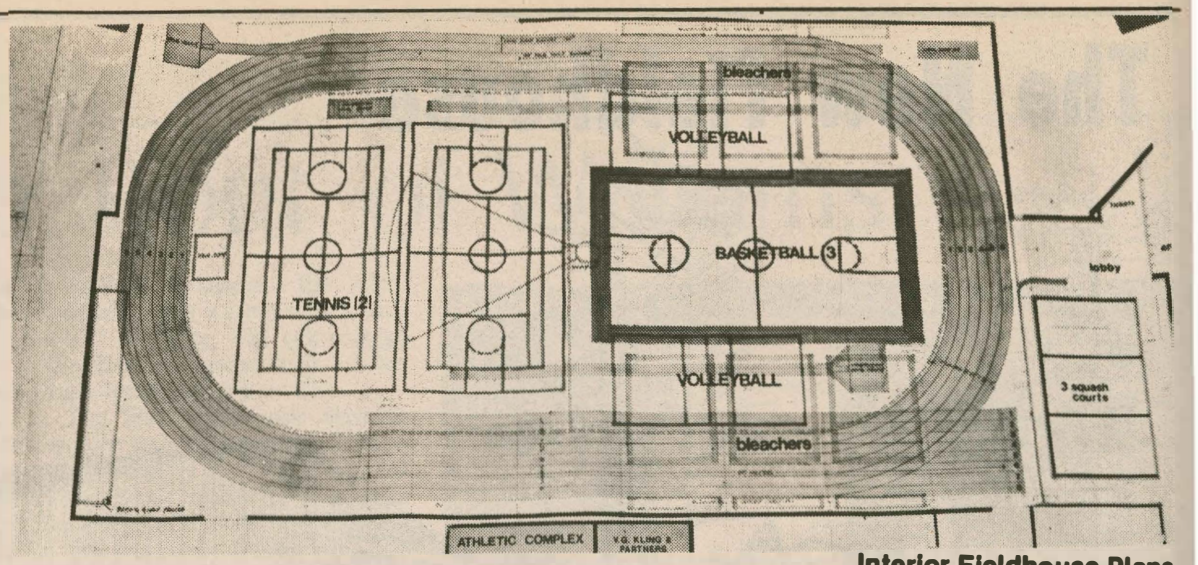
This is a "campaign based on faith," said Hamilton President J. Martin Carovano at an interview yesterday. Construction on the proposed athletic facilities is to begin before all the money is in hand, because the campaign to date, according to Carovano, has been very successful.

Now that the completion of the Chemistry renovations is in sight, Hamilton will focus the campaign contributions on athletics. All of the alumni contributions not designated for a specific purpose will go towards the athletic facilities, and Hamilton will now make a major effort to solicit foundation support for the athletic facilities. Yet, at the same time, both Carovano and Dean of the College W. Lawrence Gulick contend that endowment has not become a less important priority.

Increasing endowment—money invested, the interest from which is used for annual spending—is a major concern for Hamilton. Approximately one-quarter of Hamilton's operating budget comes from its endowment funds: the use of endowment funds include financial aid, faculty salaries, endowed chairs, and library support. However, inflation is causing operating costs to increase at a rate higher than the endowment, and Hamilton must increase its endowment by six million dollars over the next four years, if it is to survive.

The beginning of the capital campaign is an auspicious one indeed: nearly half the money hoped for in less than one-quarter the time. However, if this is just an initial boom, if contributions slacken off, it will be the endowment which will suffer. The worst imaginable consequence could be that Hamilton might be left with a beautiful athletic facility which it could not afford to operate.

On a more optimistic note, only eight out of twenty-eight geographic regions have beencanvassedfor alumni contributions, and none of the major alumni contributors have yet been solicited. Hamilton's plan is based on faith in projections, and let's just hope the projections are accurate.



Interior Fieldhouse Plans

Kirkland To Share New Facilities

By FELICE FREYER

Future Kirkland students can expect to be well-accommodated in Hamilton's projected fieldhouse, according to Comfort Richardson, Kirkland's coordinator of athletic activities.

"We're going to feel welcome in it," Richardson said. "It was designed with Kirkland in mind. We were consulted all along the way. Several things were put into the building at our suggestion."

Kirkland has made no financial contribution toward the construction of the new athletic facilities, but the colleges had "agreed at the outset that the facilities would be joint," said Hamilton President J. Martin Carovano.

Coach Eugene Long visited facilities at several coed colleges to explore the impact of women on athletic programs, according to W. Lawrence Gulick, dean of the college. "We put in enough forethought so that Kirkland's anticipated needs will be well-met. We wanted to do justice to our coordinate enterprise," he said.

Unisex

"The whole indoor athletic facility was designed to serve 1500 students, nearly half of whom will be women," said Richardson. "The building will be completely and totally unisex."

The new fieldhouse will enable Kirkland to expand its athletic program. "If we can get the basketball court at a reasonable time instead of a peculiar time, we could have a basketball team. With more squash courts, why not start a squash team?" Richardson said.

"There will also be facilities for fencing and gymnastics...We'll have a bigger locker room. With the gym floor doubled in size, we'll be getting some prime time assignments...But there will always be some kind of pressure for indoor space," she said.

"Insofar as I can figure out the quirks from the model," she continued, "I think the building is pretty well-designed."

Kirkland also intends to make its contribution to the athletic life on the Hill. Kirkland's capital campaign is seeking $200,000 to build six tennis courts and a playing field on the Kirkland campus, according to Richardson.

Interest in Athletics

Over 300 Kirkland students signed up to participate in an athletic activity in 1975-76, and at present, "every single locker is assigned, some shared by two people," Richardson said. While the focus of the program may shift from one activity to another according to student interest, Richardson said that one trend is evident: interest in athletics is growing at Kirkland.

In terms of attracting applicants to the colleges, Richardson said she thought the new facilities will have some drawing power, but added that she is convinced that "Hamilton and Kirkland will never overemphasize athletics."

"The first time anyone starts recruiting for athletics at Kirkland, they'll get my resignation," Richardson said. "I don't want to recruit anyone. I just want to see the kids have a good time."

Following Union or Meeting Needs?

By DAVE BALOG

Does the arrival of the long-awaited field house also mark the beginning of big time sports at Hamilton? Will Hamilton now spend its dollars recruiting future Cedric Olivers and Mark Rybarcyks in place of Austin Briggses and Phil Pearles?

Since the inception of the idea of a fieldhouse, it has been important to President Carovano, Provost Wertimer, and Athletic Director Long to deny that the program is nothing more than an attempt to meet the current needs of Hamilton (and Kirkland) athletics.

News
Analysis

It is evident that the administration is wary of following in the footsteps of its neighbor to the East, Union. Indeed big time sports has arrived at Union.

With a huge gift from a wealthy alum, Union has built a magnificent new rink, suddenly attracted Canadian students and lured a former professional to coach them. The Achilles Rink is a sight to behold, replete with an ice machine, gratis the Freihoffer Baking Company.

Gulick and others defend the fieldhouse by saying that the college has to "play the game" with other schools if it is to survive the upcoming depletion of the college applicant pool. "The adequacies of the physical education department play a role in the applicant's decision," he admits.

The administration justifies the $6.5 million expense further by saying that it is a consequence of the college's delay in addressing past neglect. Carovano, Anderson and Gulick quote the shrinking square footage/student ratio and argue that the amount would not seem so enormous if it was prorated backward. They cite the priorities already extended to the Science and Chemistry buildings, the library, dormitories and the endowment.

For Gene Long, the improvements to the gym and the construction of the fieldhouse is a welcome sight. The Alumni Gym was built over forty years ago to accomodate less than half the numbers that it now does.

In the past Long has said that the fieldhouse was not necessary to the sports program at Hamilton. While Long has always said the new complex would be welcome, when the fundraising situation seemed uncertain last October, he repeated that it was not essential to Hamilton's sports program.

But when Don Jones tried to prepare his football team for their final game, ironically against Union, he bemoaned the fact that he had no indoor place to take his team when snow made outdoor practice difficult. Yet Jones also has agreed that the fieldhouse was not essential to the status of his club. It would be nice to have a place to go in bad weather, he said, but not essential.

Sports has grown enormously in all aspects in the past decade. Millions of dollars are being poured into sports on both professional and collegiate levels. Has Hamilton chipped in with its $6.5 million?

The administration and the trustees all deny that Hamilton has shifted its priorities. Others will disagree.

Nonetheless it seems unlikely that the fieldhouse will bring Hamilton to the major leagues. "Hamilton has athletic and academic integrity second to very few schools. Our integrity would prevent this sort of thing from happening," commented Gene Long last year.

Certainly there's a thin line between improving facilities and preparing for a sports expansion, but Hamilton seems to recognize this distinction.

Construction To Begin

continued from page one

large sum is the result of a delay in fixing the athletic facilities over the past years. It looks like a "real quantum leap," said Gulick, "but if it were pro-rated backwards, spent little by little, it wouldn't seem like so much."

Almost everything but the physical education facilities have been updated over the years, said Gulick.

"We are whole-heartedly in support of the capital campaign goals of endowment," said Gulick. "This has not taken priority over endowment."

Contributions

Up until now, all the contributions collected from alumni which have not been designated for a specific purpose have been used for the renovation of the Chemistry building. The Chemistry building modernization was also aided by grants from foundations, such as $200,000 from the Kresge Foundation, $200,000 from the Dana Foundation, and $250,000 from the Lilia Babbitt Hyde Foundation.

Now, the unspecified contributions will be used for the physical education facilities, said Carovano. "We have not yet sought specific gifts for the athletic facilities, but we will now begin to do so."

"The capital campaign has generated a good deal of interest because things have been happening; we hope that by beginning the athletic facility construction, this will continue," said Carovano.

Fieldhouse to Be Admissions Asset

The fieldhouse will be an asset to the Hamilton Office of Admission in its efforts to attract qualified applicants from a dwindling pool of prospective students, according to E. John Effinger, Associate Director of Admission.

A number of those replying to the annual survey sent by the Admission Office to all accepted applicants, whether they choose to matriculate here or elsewhere, "make negative comments about the present athletic facilities," said Effinger.

"Almost every applicant has at least a passing interest in athletics," said Effinger, "and our facilities don't come off spectacularly when compared to those of other schools."

Effinger said that he foresees no increase in athletic recruiting, though the fieldhouse may attract gifted student-athletes who might now reject Hamilton.

Plans For Fieldhouse

continued from page one

available," said Gene Long, chairman of the Physical Education Department.

The fieldhouse will also contain a 200-meter track and a synthetic surface so that varsity teams will be able to practice inside during inclement weather. Long said that the 200-meter track is one of the first in the country, "if not in the world."

"The fieldhouse will help us emphasize physical education, free play, intramurals, and varsity sports," said Long.

Alumni Gym Renovation

Alumni Gymnasium, to be renovated as part of the college's capital campaign, will be relieved of much of the burden it has carried for the past thirty-six years. The gym was planned for a student body of 400, but today serves a student population four times as large.

The main area on the gym's second floor will continue to be used for squash, intramurals, and weight training. The offices of the physical education department will remain in the gym, though they will be expanded.

Most of the renovation will take place on the basement level. There will be more locker space for males and females, and the team rooms will be redesigned to permit use by both sexes, according to Carovano.

Use of the Gym

"The gym will continue to be used for some physical education functions," said Long, "and the squash courts and the universal gym room will easily last another 30 years." Long said that the gym is ideal for luncheons, concerts, and other large-scale gatherings for which a fieldhouse would not be suitable.

Sage Rink has already undergone some renovation. To date, $250,000 has been spent for new piping, ice making machinery, sideboards, and an improved lighting system.

A new pool will complete the athletic complex, but the Trustees have yet to give the go-ahead on the pool's construction.

Outdoor Facilities Upgraded

According to plans, Hamilton's outdoor athletic facilities will be augmented also. Four new tennis courts will be constructed to take the place of those removed because of the fieldhouse construction. Three new practice fields will be made ready to improve the intramural competitor's lot. The location of these facilities has not as yet been determined.

The college has also not yet decided where the parking space needed to accomodate fieldhouse patrons will be located.

THE SPECTATOR

NUMBER TWELVE DECEMBER 11, 1976

Susan Malkin
Editor-in-Chief

Issue Editors: Dave Balog, Felice Freyer, Bob McCormick
Production: Kathy Hecht, Chris Santoro
Photos: Ed Sommer

The Publications Board publisnes The Spectator, a newspaper edited by students, 26 times during the academic year. Second-class postage paid at Clinton, N.Y. Subscriptions: $7 a year. Address: Box 83, Hamilton College, Clinton, N.Y. 13323. Offices at Bristol Campus Center, Hamilton College. Phone (315) 859-7101. Letters to the editor must be signed, but names will be withheld upon request.